

Harvard University,

Cambridge, June 23, 1890.

My dear Dr. Watson, -

The Corporation received today notice of a subscription to the amount of \$3500 a year for five years for the benefit of the Herbarium. No part of the money has as yet been received. This money, like the receipts from Dr. Gray's copyrights and the income of the Herbarium Fund, is received and paid out by the Treasurer of the University. It is therefore necessary that votes should be passed to authorize the expenditures chargeable against these receipts. The salary of the Assistant will be one of these expenses, and the Assistant should therefore be appointed by the President and Fellows. There will be opportunity to make the appointment at the meeting of the Corporation on Wednesday morning next at half past eight in Memorial Hall. I infer from your letter of the 21st that you would desire the appointment to be made only for one year from the 1st of May. Most of the appointments of the Corporation run from September 1st to September 1st, and it would be rather more convenient to have Dr. Robinson's appointment conform to this method. The traditions of the Herbarium were but ill-determined with reference to appointments. When you first came to the Herbarium, I think that your salary was provided for privately, and was not a charge upon any money in

possession of the President and Fellows. The Corporation will undoubtedly
increase your salary to \$2000 from the 1st of July next. With regard to
other expenditures on behalf of the Herbarium, they will be glad to receive your
suggestions and will in all probability be guided by your recommendations. The
object in view is to relieve you of all work that anybody else can do, in order
that you may devote your time to the North American Flora. Unless you know
some very judicious person to act as librarian who could also work upon the
collections, I should be myself more in favor of botanical Assistants than of
spending money on the Library. A collection of books will, if you give it a
chance, crowd out any other collection which is in the same building.

Please let me hear from you again before Wednesday morning as to what
you desire then to have done by the Corporation.

Very truly yours,

Charles W. Eliot

Dr. Sereno Watson.